

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated August 4, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Claims 5, 8, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103, on the basis of the Smith patent in view of the Blumberg patent. The Office Action relies upon the Blumberg patent for its disclosure of the ability to request portions of an image at a specific resolution by sending an IIP (Internet Imaging Protocol) request to a server. This request comprises the portion of the image that is to be viewed, together with the size of the screen. See, for example, column 9, lines 17-22. In response to this information, the server analyzes the original image, and generates an image meeting the specifications, in a required format.

In contrast to this approach, claims 5, 8 and 13 recite that a request from a portable terminal contains an enlarging ratio relative to a thumbnail image that has been transmitted. In response to this request, an enlarged image is generated that corresponds to this enlarging ratio, relative to the thumbnail image. Support for these recitations can be found in the specification, for example at paragraphs 0134 and 0135.

It is respectfully submitted that the Blumberg patent does not disclose that a user request for portions of an image includes an enlarging ratio that specifies the ratio of the requested image relative to a received thumbnail image. Rather, the request indicates the size of the screen on which the requested image is to be viewed. Consequently, the image server creates an image at the specified size, rather than enlarging a thumbnail image by a designated ratio.

It is respectfully submitted that an application of the teachings of the Blumberg patent to the system of the Smith patent would not result in the presently claimed subject matter. Specifically, neither patent teaches the concept of sending a request that contains an enlarging ratio, and generating an enlarged image in accordance with such an enlarging ratio, relative to the previously transmitted thumbnail image. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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